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BRITISH GUARD AGAINST U. S. USURPATION OF TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

Mercantile Interests Sound Note of Warning That Yankees Are About to Supplant British As Leading South American Traders.

London, Dec. 3.—Great Britain has no intention of allowing the United States to oust it from first place in trade with South America, declares the Daily Chronicle in a long and earnest discussion of "The South American Market." After noting the relative positions of England, Germany and the United States in South American trade prior to the war, the article warns its readers that the United States has already accomplished a great deal in its effort to take advantage of the opening offered it.

"But let us look for a moment at the assets of the British trader in South America," continues the Chronicle. "One of his greatest is his reputation for strict integrity and scrupulously honorable dealing, which will stand him in good stead in the coming race for trade. It must be maintained at all costs. South American people have had experience of our methods of business and of those of the United States, and as a general rule they prefer our own. If they can do so they will deal with us."

"Another great point in our favor is the remarkably strong position of our leading banks. The name of the Anglo-South American bank, the British Bank of South America, and the London and Brazilian bank are household words in banking and financial circles all over the world. Enlightened management and the growth of British trade have brought them prosperity. Then again there is the Banca Commerciale Italiana. The entente between British and Italian interests in Brazil is of particular importance, owing to the predominance of the latter in the South American labor market."

"Consideration of our banking position naturally leads one to speak of our shipping predominance. Our pre-eminence in South American trade in the past has been due in no small degree to the great development of our merchant marine. The United States is not slow to appreciate the importance of the banking and shipping elements. Her banks are already opening branches in South America, and the South American centers, while her colossal activity in producing war munitions and the sale of her foodstuffs at high prices will enable her for the first time in her career to lend freely to the war, touched \$50,000,000, or one-fourth of the total trade of those countries. Obviously British companies will, whenever possible, place their orders in Great Britain. But they are not in business for their health, and our traders must give

them what they want or they will go elsewhere."

The article goes on with a discussion of the shortcomings of British trade. Selling by catalogue is impossible in these countries, it declares, and it adds that there is a lamentable lack of really skilled British travelers and agents. In this respect it urges British traders to take a leaf from Germany's handbook. "Germany's travelers and agents were skilled men, and they spared neither time nor trouble. Good linguists were they, not with a mere smattering of Spanish and Portuguese. Nor did the heads of the firms in Germany leave everything to their agents. They were always making personal visits to study local commerce and credit conditions on the spot. Above all, they took care to give the importer what he wanted."

Turning specifically to the opportunities in Argentina, the Chronicle declares that a great effort is necessary here if England is to maintain commercial predominance. The last complete year's returns for this republic show that in 1913 the trade was divided as follows: England, 130 million dollars; Germany 70 millions, and the United States 62 millions.

In Brazil, the second most important market, the Chronicle believes that the clearing of the financial atmosphere which has come about since the war opens new opportunities for the first nation on the spot. Chile, the third country in commercial importance, is likely, the article adds, to show surprising developments during the next few days owing to the opening of the Panama Canal.

In conclusion, the article quotes from a British consular report the following advice to would-be traders in South America:

"There are two essential points: First, do not despise small orders; treat the \$100 order with the same respect as if it was for \$100,000. Second, use extreme caution when quoting prices. They should be the very lowest that your business can stand, where there is no question of how much you can get, but of how much you can sacrifice in order to secure the customer."

STEEL FIRMS READY TO RUSH MATERIALS FOR U. S. WARSHIPS

Washington, Dec. 3.—There will be no delay in delivery of steel for battleships Nos. 43 and 44, if government undertakes their construction in navy yards. Bids from 11 steel companies, according to the navy department, are offered to begin delivery within six months and complete it within two years. Prices show an apparent increase, of from 30 to 40 per cent, over material purchases for the battleship California over a year ago.

All unmarried persons at Oschatz, Saxony, must pay an extra tax.

After three days of shopping in New York, Mrs. Norman Galt returned to Washington.

Stricter censorship over mail sent to Britain was established by Great Britain.

CUPHEAG CLUB WILL HAVE ANNUAL MEETING AND RECEPTION JAN. 21

(Special to the Farmer.)
Stratford, Dec. 3.—At the monthly meeting of the Cupheag club held last evening at the club rooms it was voted to hold their annual reception and get-together meeting, Jan. 21, 1916. Speeches will be made by different members of the organization and refreshments will be served. It was also voted at the meeting to lease their present club rooms for five years more.

The cantata, "King Arthur," rendered in chorale form by the students of the High school, was witnessed by a large and appreciative audience last night at Red Men's hall, Church street. The hall was well filled. Those who assisted to make the concert a success were Mrs. Ethel Poland Hubbell, soprano; Sydney Corbette, tenor and Joseph Weiler, bass. Rev. Ernest C. Carpenter, pastor of the Stratford Methodist church, will deliver a lecture at Red Men's hall, Church street, Monday evening, Dec. 6. His subject will be "Yellowstone Park and Its Beauties." The lecture will be under the auspices of the Okenuck tribe of Red Men.

'HOME BUILDERS' INCORPORATE

Articles of incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State at Hartford for the Bridgeport Home Builders' Investment Corporation of Bridgeport. Capital stock \$1000,000. The purposes of the corporation is to build dwellings to sell on easy terms or to build on contract in and around Bridgeport. Offices are being fitted up in the First-Bridgeport National Bank building. The incorporators are J. S. Former, architect and builder, of Devon; Dr. Orville Reector, and Rufus G. Cleveland, of the Cleveland System Co., both of Bridgeport. The officers of the corporation will be J. S. Former, president and general manager; R. G. Cleveland, vice president; Dr. Orville Reector, treasurer; Claude P. Reyley, of Hartford, secretary. The company will shortly begin the erection of a number of homes for sale on the lines stated.

STOCK MARKET

New York, Dec. 3.—Opening.—Fractional declines were more or less general at the opening of today's market, specialties, metal shares and rails all showing a lower trend. The most conspicuous feature was United States Steel, which was offered in an initial lot of 6,000 shares at 84 3/4 to 85, the latter being yesterday's final quotation. Southern Pacific also weakened on large scale with a moderate setback in Union Pacific, Erie and Pennsylvania. Among the high priced specialties, General Motors lost three at 460. Secondary prices were better all around, most of the early losses being more or less recovered.

Noon.—On the rebound the market became dull with variable tendencies in different groups. Some war shares rose substantially, with improvement in automobile, oil and metal issues and such miscellaneous stocks as United Fruit and Mercantile marine pfd, also advanced. Breakers were again prominent, Cuban-American rising seven to 169 and South Porto Rican Sugar 5 to 160. Bonds were irregular.

ZONE OF DEATH ON BATTLEFIELD SCENE OF RUNS

Captured Trenches Held by (French Marked by General Desolation.

Chalons, France, Dec. 3.—"When we have taken you out before, we have shown you trenches," said a French officer. "This time we are going to show you a field of victory—lines of trenches which we took from the Germans."

Not all the spoil had yet been removed from that section fifteen miles long and from one to five broad, where, on Sept. 25th and 26th the French had broken back the siege line of the Germans with the concentration of infantry and the expenditure of millions of shells.

What looked like a man of war turret on wheels was being drawn along the road. This cupola of riveted armor was dented by shell fragments. It had an opening for the swing of a small gun and a door for the exit and entrance of the crew, which could be fastened by a bolt and a heavy chain. "Three men were found inside, locked in," said an officer. "The turret was set in the parapet of a trench at an important point of the line. All the German soldiers in the neighborhood had either been killed or buried alive. We had to break the lock to take the crew out. All three were alive but stunned. They had gone on firing their guns as long as they could."

Freely the correspondent moved between the old first line French and German trenches, which, for many months, had been a zone of death for whoever showed himself into the open. The first line trench the Germans had barbed-wire entanglements five or six feet broad. A rabbit could not have gone through without being caught. In places now one had to search to find any wire. It had been chopped into bits by the burst of shrapnel bullets from the sixteenth century guns and then kneaded into the earth by high explosive shells. Those guns had been firing from a range of anywhere from one thousand to five thousand yards, yet with such accuracy that they could hit this ribbon of wire six feet broad. On such accuracy depended the success of the infantry in reaching the German trenches. There must be guns and shells enough to destroy wire over a front of fifteen miles. If the Germans in the trench with their rifles and machine guns and hand grenades could go on firing it meant murder for the Frenchmen exposed in the open as they charged.

So fifteen or twenty yards beyond where the wire was being cut more shell-fire had to kill the fire from the German trenches. Some blast of shrapnel bullets here, too, enough to make any man in the German trenches want to keep his head down if he was not buried or otherwise killed. The zone of death was a hundred yards in some places there was scarcely any semblance of trenches after the French guns had prepared the way for the assault. It was possible to see what the German trenches were like and with what amazing thoroughness and care they had been built.

To a layman they seemed impassable. Down these slanting shafts under the parapets were caves twenty and thirty feet deep for refuge in a bombardment. In many cases the German trenches had been the descent of a ton or more of earth from the parapet from the concussion of a large calibre howitzer shell, and all the men within were crushed to death. The fate of those who were in the trench itself was often to be buried in fragments of flesh and bone, blown into the soil by the explosions. The French infantry as they reached the barbed-wire for fear of hitting the Germans in the trenches and the French fire stopped for fear of hitting the Germans in the trenches. The French had waged peace reigned over the wreckage wrought by French gunnery, as the French soldiers sprang over the remnants of parapets to face with bayonet and dagger any German that had survived and was in possession of his senses.

"Even those who were," said a soldier, "often yielded. Why would they? We swarmed around them. We summoned those alive out of their dugouts. Thus we took our prisoners. That is, we took those who were not killed. The rest were the wounded. Ah! Monsieur, they were more numerous than the prisoners. It was terrible, Monsieur, and it all happened very fast, Monsieur. The bid was the better—the less time the Germans had to reach the trench. It was victory. How good the thought of the sixteenth century sounded behind us. How good the scream of our big shells. Then there were the mines we exploded. Have you seen the craters? So big you could almost put the Arc de Triomphe into one of them. We charged into a wall of dust from the shells and the smoke and dust were still thick when we reached the German trenches."

"And what did you think of when you charged?"

"Of nothing, Monsieur, except to arrive. We ran as fast as we could. The sooner we got to those trenches the better—the less time the Germans had to recover from the shell-fire and begin firing at us."

"Did you get as many Germans as they got of you?"

"Yes," said the first line trenches many more."

The question a score of times of officers and men always brought the same answer.

It was in the second and third lines of trenches that the French suffered most; for their guns could not always cut the barbed wire. They dug trenches to pieces as successfully farther on as the troops swept forward throughout the greatest day in the history of the war on the western front the night found them digging to the earth under cover of the darkness five miles beyond their old first line trenches.

This is your opportunity to secure great bargains in untrimmed hats, trimmed hats, shirt waists, silk and percale petticoats, sweaters, marabou scarfs and muffs, volantes, cloths, plush coats, gowns, raincoats, separate cloth skirts, reliable fur muffs and scarfs, at Saturday bargain day prices at E. H. Dillon & Co., 1105 Main street.—Adv.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. John Bellinski of 150 Holly street have announced the marriage of their daughter, Miss Loretta Bellinski, to Mr. Albert Abbotts of 481 Logan street on December 2, at Portchester, N. Y. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Leo B. Thomas. The young couple were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hine of this city, sister and brother-in-law of the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Abbotts are at present residing at 481 Logan street. Mr. Abbotts, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Abbotts, is a toolmaker by occupation, employed at the Bridgeport Metal Goods Co.

Mrs. Fred J. Brady of 765 Laurel avenue entertained the Sewing Circle of which she is a member at a turkey dinner last night. The dinner was held in honor of her recent marriage. Among those present were the Misses Alleen Flanagan, Ethel Cooney, Julia McDonough, Sadie McDonough, Irene Eagan, Bessie Hawkins, Marguerite O'Donnell, Marion Coles, Madeline Hendricks, Edna Keefe, Mary McGrath and Mrs. James Horan, Jr.

The first of a series of formal lectures on the Current Events to be given by Mrs. Charles M. Calhoun was held yesterday afternoon before an exclusive audience at the residence of Mrs. William D. Bishop, 190 Courtland street. The lecture was on the European war and present conditions. Mrs. Calhoun gave a resume of the past year in connection with the war. In closing her very interesting talk, Mrs. Calhoun read a sonnet of Rupert Brooke's written since the war, called "The Dead," which showed the effect of the conflict upon the young English poets. The author, who was but 27 years of age, has since given his life to his country and it has been said by Brinkerhoff, that the world has lost no more serious loss since the death of Shelley.

Sunday evening, January 2, has been set as the date when the huge sacred history of the past will be given by the Queen's Daughters at Poll's theatre. Six hundred or more school children are being drilled at the various Catholic parishes of the city by Misses Lillian Wood, who is directing the affair. Four churches, Sacred Heart, St. Augustine's, St. Charles' and St. Patrick's, are largely represented in the pageant. The children range from the ages of seven to 14. Prof. Herman, musical director of Sacred Heart church, is in charge of the music and will lead the orchestra of the evening of the presentation of the pageant. There will be a great number of special features among which will be the living flag and the Changed Cross, posed as an invisible choir sings "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?" The affair will be the greatest amateur theatrical event of the season and it is said that it will surpass any production of a similar nature ever given in the city.

ENGLISH NAVY JOBS PRESSING, MERCHANT VESSELS SUFFERING

London, Dec. 3.—While the vast resources of the various ship building yards of Great Britain are largely concentrated on naval work, it is believed that during the next few months much of the urgent naval shipbuilding will be completed and a certain number of men released for mercantile building and repair work. At present, however, there is great difficulty in fitting new mercantile vessels with propeller machinery and other equipment, largely through the number of men engaged on Admiralty work and more recently by the new recruiting campaign which is slowly but surely depleting the yards of necessary workmen. Despite these drawbacks seven new vessels have just been completed on the Clyde, including the New Zealand passenger steamer "Aotearoa," 15,000 tons, the Leyland and motor liner "Bostonian" and the motor ship "Montezuma."

OBITUARY

LUCY FRANCES WHEELER.

Lucy Frances White, wife of John H. Wheeler, died early this morning at her home, 721 Washington avenue, at the age of 63 years. Mrs. Wheeler was born in East Rockaway, L. I. She had resided in this city for the past 40 years and is survived by her husband and one daughter, Miss Clara L. Wheeler. Mrs. Wheeler was an attendant of Olivet Congregational church.

MABEL F. SHERWOOD.

Mabel F. Wooster, wife of George H. Sherwood, died at her home in Trumbull last evening following several years of ill health. Mrs. Sherwood was 77 years of age and was born in Huntington, the daughter of Frank W. and Louise Wakelee Wooster. She is survived by her husband, one son, Master Ralph E. Sherwood, her parents and one brother, Edgar C., of Huntington.

MARY A. WALSH.

The funeral of Mary, widow of James Walsh, was attended by many friends and relatives from her residence, 261 James street, at 8:30 this morning and at 9 o'clock from St. Augustine's church, where a requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. James Derwin. Schmidt's mass was sung by the choir. At the offertory Prof. Alfred Brisebois sang "Domine Jesu." The bearers were Thomas Smith, Patrick Tierney, Michael Murphy, John Moran, Michael O'Connell and James McCauley. Interment was in the family plot in St. Michael's cemetery.

THOMAS H. HART.

Three weeks from the day that his father, John Hart, died suddenly, Thomas H. Hart, of 392 East Main street, passed away this morning in the Shelton Sanatorium where he had been a patient for the past three months. While the death had been expected for some time, that of the father was a shock to all who knew him. The son was 28 years of age, unmarried, and an employee of the Singer Manufacturing Co. He was a member of the Naam lodge, Shepherds of Bethlehem, of the Nathaniel Wheeler court, F. of A., and of the Acorn Athletic club. He was exceptionally well known on the East Side. His mother, two brothers and five sisters survive him, James and Joseph of this city; Mrs. Mary Manley of Philadelphia, Mrs. Margaret Kearns and Mrs. Charles Clark of Boston, Mrs. Isabel Crowe of Bridgeport and Miss Anna Hart of New York.

Nearly two feet of snow fell in sections of the Adirondacks.

MIKE GIBBONS INTENDS TO BEAT UP ALL MIDDLEWEIGHTS; AS STARTER HE WILL TACKLE AHEARN



St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 2.—Mike Gibbons, the sensational middleweight of this city, has mapped out a strenuous schedule for himself. He intends to take on all the so called champions in the near future and dispose of them in masterly style to establish a clear claim to the middleweight crown. As a starter Gibbons will take on Young Ahearn, the European middleweight champion, in a ten round battle to be held here at the Capital A. C., Dec. 10. When these two clever chaps meet, therefore, it will be some battle. According to Ahearn's manager, the crafty Daniel McKetrick, the European battler, who has come to be known as England's best boy, will beat Gibbons and beat him decisively. It is difficult for northwestern fight followers to imagine such a state of affairs. While they do not believe that there is a man in the world today who can beat Mike Gibbons decisively, still, if there is such a man, they want to see him. Like the Missourians, they want to be "shown." When McKetrick signed articles for this fight he asked Gibbons to sign articles for him. Gibbons, upon receiving an affirmative reply McKetrick said: "What are you trying to do? Sign away the best friend you've got? This fellow Ahearn will whip Gibbons as sure as you age alive." So confident is this McKetrick that Gibbons will have to have a hole and hibernate the rest of the winter, for he will have absolutely no alibi when he returns to New York. The fact that the Minnesota boxing commission may give its consent to allow a decision in this important fight is causing lots of talk throughout the northwestern states. The commission will not give out its decision on the matter until Dec. 7. Upper illustration shows Mike Gibbons second from left in group, with brother Tom next to him and President Dow of the Capital A. C. on right. After returning from a successful hunt Gibbons spent most of his time training in the mountains.

RELEASE MEN WHOM POLICE LOCKED UP FOR INVESTIGATION

Owing to a lack of convicting evidence the charge of breach of the peace was nulled by Judge Wilder in the city court today in the case of Paul Van Blarcom, of 61 Audubon avenue, New York city, and John Carter of Waterbury.

Both were arrested by Policemen John Barton and Edward C. Wheeler while acting in a suspicious manner on Water street last night. Van Blarcom was endeavoring to sell an overcoat to pedestrians and it was the belief of the police that the garment was stolen property. Van Blarcom had purchased the coat from a longshoreman and the police were unable to prove otherwise.

MISTAKE POLICEMAN FOR HIGHWAY ROBBER

A peculiar situation confronted Policeman Stephen E. McCullough shortly after midnight last night when he was attacked by a crowd of men who believed him to be a hold-up man while he was attempting to arrest a vagrant in front of the Blue Ribbon garage on Fairfield avenue.

Charles G. Roger, some times of Danbury and way stations, had been ejected from police headquarters after applying for lodgings. Policeman McCullough was on his way home in civilian clothes and he saw Rogers panning hand passersby. When he endeavored to place Rogers under arrest the latter resisted and a crowd of young men ran to his assistance. Upon being informed that the aggressor was

SUPT. BIRMINGHAM SAYS STOREKEEPERS HERE ARE NEGLIGENT

Policeman William Wolfe discovered the door of the City Auto Supply Co., at 598 Fairfield avenue, open shortly after 1 o'clock this morning. He was unable to communicate with the proprietor and the policeman was ordered to lock the door which has a burglar alarm. It was disclosed today that one of the employees, leaving the garage last evening, had failed to properly secure the catch.

Superintendent Birmingham says he is perturbed at the negligence of storekeepers and business men in leaving their doors unlocked. Burglars have an easy time gaining entrance to stores and offices in this city, according to Superintendent Eugene Birmingham.

ALLEGED LOCHINVAR IS ARRESTED HERE

In the city court today Judge Frank L. Wilder ordered a continuance until tomorrow of the case of William Doran of 702 Carroll avenue, technically charged with breach of the peace.

Doran is alleged to have eloped from Yonkers, N. Y., with 17-year-old Mary Callahan of that city and came to Bridgeport where he was apprehended last night by Detectives Edward Cronan and George Simons.

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